



Application Serial No. 09/667,827
Attorney Docket No. 099488-2

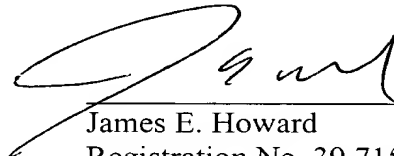
REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment amends claims 1, 12 and 15. Claims 1-15 are pending. Claims 1, 7, 9, 12-13 and 15 are independent.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt consideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application into condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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JEH:dkf

Enclosure:

Version with markings to show changes made

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Version with markings to show changes made

1. (Amended) A dental implant for insertion in the jaw bone of a patient, comprising:

an elongated body having a longitudinal axis and a proximal surface generally transverse to said longitudinal axis,

a boss extending from said proximal surface, said boss having a transverse face, generally axial extended side surfaces, and a non-round cross section as viewed along said axis,

at least one indentation penetrating said transverse face of said boss and at least one of said proximal surface and said transverse face of said [implant] body, said at least one indentation being adapted to engage an insertion device or at least one protrusion of a dental prosthesis or an abutment so as to fix the position of the prosthesis or abutment relative to said implant

12. (Amended) An implant assembly comprising:

(i) a dental implant for insertion in the jaw bone of a patient, comprising:

an elongated body having a longitudinal axis and a proximal surface generally transverse to said longitudinal axis,

a boss extending from said proximal surface, said boss having a transverse face, generally axial extended side surfaces, and a non-round cross section as viewed along said axis,

at least one indentation penetrating said transverse of said boss and at least one of said proximal surface and said transverse face of said [implant] body,

(ii) a dental prosthesis or abutment or impression coping for attachment to said implant, comprising, at a surface that engages said implant, at least one protrusion which

engages with said at least one indentation so as to fix the position of the dental prosthesis or abutment or impression coping relative to said implant.

15. (Amended) A dental implant for insertion in the jaw bone of a patient, comprising:

an elongated body having a longitudinal axis and proximal surface generally transverse to said longitudinal axis,

a boss extending from said proximal surface, said boss having a transverse face and generally axial extended side surfaces,

at least one indentation penetrating said transverse face of said boss and at least one of said proximal surface and said transverse face of said [implant] body, said at least one indentation being adapted to engage an insertion device or at least one protrusion of a dental prosthesis or abutment so as to fix the position of the abutment or crown relative to said implant.